

SIRHAN 8/16/71

1ST ADD 2ND LD 225 XXX PROBE.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY JOSEPH P. BUSCH HAS LAUNCHED HIS OWN INVESTIGATION INTO SEVERAL FACETS OF THE CASE INVOLVING THE ASSASSINATION OF U.S. SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY IN JUNE OF 1968.

BUSCH HAS NOT ANNOUNCED ANY FINDINGS YET IN HIS INVESTIGATION.

THE TWO SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES WHO ISSUED ORDERS IN THE SIRHAN CASE, ARTHUR L. ALARCON, AND HERBERT V. WALKER, WERE AMONG EIGHT WITNESSES WHO APPEARED BEFORE THE GRAND JURY TODAY.

NEITHER WOULD COMMENT ABOUT HIS TESTIMONY, BUT PRESUMABLY THEY EXPLAINED THEIR ORDERS TO THE JURORS.

ALSO TESTIFYING WERE COUNTY CLERK WILLIAM SHARP AND PETER J. TALMACHOFF, CHIEF OF THE CRIMINAL DIVISION OF THE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE.

THEY ALSO WOULD NOT COMMENT TO NEWSMEN ABOUT THEIR TESTIMONY.

TALMACHOFF, WHO TESTIFIED FOR ABOUT AN HOUR, CARRIED A CARDBOARD CARTON FILLED WITH LARGE ENVELOPES INTO THE CLOSED-DOOR HEARING.

WHEN NEWSMEN ASKED HIM WHAT THE CARTON CONTAINED, TALMACHOFF REPLIED, "THE STUFF THEY SUBPOENAED."

HE WOULD NOT ELABORATE.

TALMACHOFF SAID HE WILL CONTINUE TESTIFYING TOMORROW AT 9:30 A.M. WHEN THE JURY RESUMES ITS SESSION.

ALSO TESTIFYING TODAY WERE TWO OF SIRHAN'S PROSECUTORS, JOHN HOWARD AND DAVID N. FITTS. HOWARD IS NOW CHIEF DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY AND FITTS IS A SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE.

IT IS BELIEVED HOWARD AND FITTS TESTIFIED ABOUT THE BACKGROUND OF THE SIRHAN CASE.

THE TWO OTHER WITNESSES WERE FRED WYNBRANDT, CHIEF CRIMINALIST FOR THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE; AND JOYCE SHANNON, ONE OF THE SECRETARIES WHO DOES THE PAPERWORK FOR THE GRAND JURY.

DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SIDNEY TRAPP IS ASSISTING HECHT IN THE PRESENTATION BEFORE THE GRAND JURY.

(INCLUDES PREVIOUS)